



CU's Julie Seabrook (15) collects a rebound Saturday against Stanford.
Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



Brooks: CU Stays Cold, Stanford Rolls To Easy Win

Release: 01/14/2012 Courtesy: B.G. Brooks, Contributing Editor

BOULDER - It was one of those days for the shooters on the Colorado women's basketball team. Problem was, it came less than 48 hours after one of those nights.

CU entered its Pac-12 Conference game Saturday against Stanford on a scoring drought and the Cardinal promptly extended it, cruising to an 80-54 win at the Coors Events Center against a team that suddenly is encountering extreme difficulty doing what basketball is all about.

After turning frigid in the second half of Thursday night's loss to California, the Buffaloes missed their first 12 shots Saturday and by halftime had made only six of 29 field goal attempts.

It was no way to start against the nation's fourth-ranked team, and the Buffs paid for it with their third loss of the season (13-3) and their third in Pac-12 play (2-3).

BUFFALO EXTRAS



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Statistics

CU coach Linda Lappe paid proper credit to Stanford's defense before adding, "We were getting good shots . . . hopefully those things will fall. We've seen Brittany (Wilson) shoot the ball well, Chucky (Jeffery) getting to the rim and hitting her shots. It's tough when everybody is having an off-night at the same time. Everybody went dry at the same time."



Notes



Quotes



Statistics

In truth, the dry spell started on Thursday night. The Buffs finished their 13-point loss to Cal by going scoreless in that game's final 7:01 - and unfortunately there was a carryover. On Saturday afternoon, they didn't score until freshman Jasmine Sborov sank two free throws with 13:01 left before intermission.

And they didn't get their first field goal against Stanford until Sborov hit a short baseline jumper a couple of minutes later. The scoring timeline wasn't pretty; counting the Thursday night drought that stretched into Saturday, CU went 14:09 without any points and 15:25 between field goals.

By then, the Cardinal was in command, fashioning a 17-2 run after Buffs freshman Lexy Kresl had pulled her team within four points (13-9) with a three-pointer at the first half's 9:15 mark. But at that point, Stanford took off and raced to a 30-11 lead with just under 3 minutes before intermission.

The Buffs wound up shooting just 20.7 percent from the field in the first half and 32.8 percent for the game (19-of-58). Jeffery, CU's leading scorer (17.2 average), scored her only two points of the afternoon with 26.2 seconds left in the first half.

Lappe said Jeffery obviously was targeted by the Cardinal: "When another team has great players like Stanford does, they key on her. She had some decent looks in the first half but she was a little tentative. She stopped pushing the ball in transition, that's when she's been at her best. She's entitled to a bad game like anybody else.

"Hopefully she gets her swagger and her confidence back. I say she's entitled (to an off-game) because everybody has one, but we're not going to be very successful when she does. We just don't have players that are capable of doing the things that she does. She just needs to get back into the gym work on shooting, ball handling and other things."

Veteran Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said her players, particularly freshman guard Amber Orrange, "worked hard" against Jeffery. "We had a lot of people guarding her. We had about four or five different players guarding her throughout the game. Colorado isn't a one-dimensional team either. I think we had the inside strength and we were able to go inside to the net. We actually missed a lot of shots early, but we finished on them later."

The Cardinal lost All-America candidate Nnemkadi Ogwumike, a 6-3 senior, to a slight ankle sprain for a 7-minute stretch in the first half. In her absence, junior Joslyn Tinkle stepped up with 12 first half points (20 for the game) and Nnemkadi Ogwumike's presence was barely missed. Her younger sister, Chiney, a 6-3 sophomore, contributed 19 points and a game-best nine rebounds, while sophomore guard Toni Kokenis matched Chiney's point total. And when she returned with a re-taped ankle, Nnemkadi contributed 15 points, putting four of Stanford's starters in double figures.

Only two CU players could match that - sophomore Brittany Wilson and freshman Jen Reese with 10 each.

Jeffery's total was her lowest since scoring that many last season at Iowa State. "We know it's hard on Chucky," said CU sophomore Ashley Wilson, who finished with nine points. "She has a lot of weight on her so we know that when she is not having a good night there has to be somebody to . . . help pick her up."

Before Sborov's basket, the Buffs missed their first 12 shots. They went to their locker room trailing 32-15, with their 15 first-half points tied for the program's fifth fewest at home.

Lappe said her team "did a great job defensively in the first half, limiting them to 32 on a team that averages 80 (per game). They're going to score the ball, but you hope you can score more than 15 in a half. You just have to

play for 40 minutes against Stanford but you also have to do that against every other team in this league."

It would have been nice if Stanford came out complacent in the second half, but that didn't happen. The Cardinal opened with an 11-3 run and steadily pulled away, going up by 25 (43-18) on a layup by Kokenis with 18:43 to play.

From there, CU's mission was one of trying to finish with respectability. In the final 15:16, the Buffs closed to within 21 (48-27) on a three-pointer by Brittany Wilson, but the Cardinal kept the pressure on and took its largest lead of the game - 29 points, 69-40 - with 6:18 remaining.

While the Buffs were mostly firing blanks, the Cardinal shot 50 percent (29-of-58) from the field. Stanford also scored 24 points off of CU's 15 turnovers and outscored the host team 34-18 in the paint.

The Cardinal obviously was not bothered by the short turnaround and hop over the Rockies after Thursday night's 62-43 win at Utah. Winning for the 63rd consecutive time against conference opposition, Stanford improved to 15-1 overall and remained unbeaten (6-0) and atop the Pac-12. The Cardinal's only loss this season was in November at then-No. 2 Connecticut (68-58).

"Stanford's a good team," Lappe said. "They're the number four team in the country for a reason. I thought they came out and played hard and were the aggressors."

Before the Buffs leave town on next week's Pac-12 trip (Thursday at Arizona State, Saturday at Arizona), Lappe's goal is clear. While Jeffery needs to bounce back, she also needs a consistent companion on the offensive end ... but who?

"That's the million dollar question," Lappe said. "We've talked about it with our staff and with our team it. We want Julie Seabrook (senior forward) to take a few more shots. She's only taken 10 shots in the last two games (3-of-6 Saturday, 8 points). When we are successful, she is taking 10 shots a game. When she recognized she was wide open, she shot it. She's a good enough shooter and scorer to recognize [the opportunities]. We need a couple more to step up game in and game out."

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SHOW MENU



Tinkle leads No. 4 Stanford women past Colorado

Saturday, January 14, 2012

(01-14) 17:28 PST Boulder, Colo. (AP) --

Joslyn Tinkle matched her career high with 20 points and No. 4 Stanford routed Colorado 80-54 Saturday.

Toni Kokenis and Chiney Ogwumike added 19 points each for Stanford (15-1, 6-0 Pac-12), which won its 12th in a row since its only loss of the season to Connecticut 68-58 on Nov. 21.

Stanford got a scare when senior forward Nnemkadi Ogwumike, who came in leading the conference in scoring at 24.0 points per game, tripped in a scramble under the basket and fell to the floor in pain with an apparent ankle injury four minutes into the game. But she returned midway through the first half after getting her ankle re-taped and finished with 15 points.

Brittany Wilson and Jen Reese both scored 10 points for Colorado (13-3, 2-3), which was 11-0 before beginning league play.

Stanford led 32-15 at halftime, limiting the Buffaloes to their lowest first-half point total in a home game. Colorado shot 21 percent from the field (6-29) and committed 10 of its 15 turnovers in the opening 20 minutes. Overall, Stanford outshot the Buffaloes 50 percent to 32.8 percent.

Colorado didn't score until 6:59 into the game when Jasmine Sborov made two free throws and didn't get a field goal until Sborov connected on a short jumper as the Buffaloes missed their first 14 shots, falling behind 11-4.

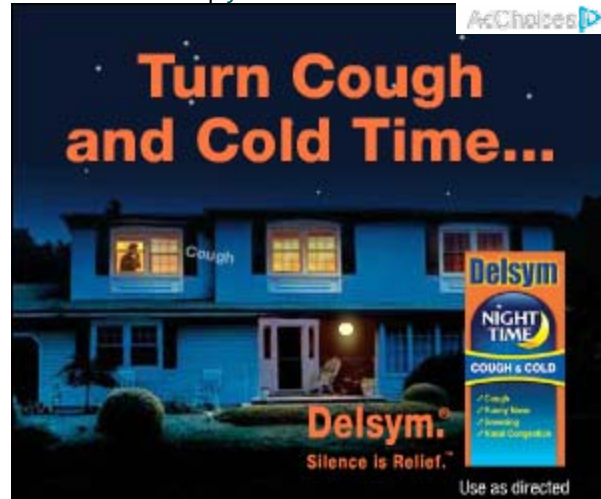
After Lexy Kresl hit a 3-pointer to pull the Buffaloes to 13-9, Stanford pulled away again with a 19-6 run over the last 10:45 of the half.

Tinkle and Kokenis each hit 3s in the run, and Nnemkadi Ogwumike hit two jumpers and two free throws as she regained her footing from the earlier ankle injury.

Colorado's Meagan Malcom-Peck opened the second half by making a 3, but Stanford answered with a 9-0 run that Kokenis keyed with a 3 of her own. The Buffaloes trailed by at least 20 the rest of the way.

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2012/01/14/sports/s172056S83.DTL>

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Women's basketball: No. 4 Stanford rolls ice-cold CU Buffs

Jeffery held to two points

By **Brian Howell** Buffzone.com
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/14/2012 06:05:03 PM MST



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Colorado probably needed a lights-out performance on offense to have an opportunity to beat No. 4 Stanford on Saturday.

With a lack of firepower all afternoon, the Buffs had no chance.

Stanford handed the Buffs their second straight defeat, routing them 80-54 at Coors Events Center.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game," sophomore Ashley Wilson said. "We knew they would come out ready to play. We just had to keep fighting, keep throwing punches to try to stay in the game."

That's not so easy against the Cardinal (15-1, 6-0 Pac-12), who have now won 63 straight games against conference opponents.

CU (13-3, 2-3) matched the Cardinal in rebounds and the teams were close in turnovers. But the Buffs produced the

lowest-scoring first half in a home game in team history, with 15 points, and never recovered.

The Buffs' leading scorer, Chucky Jeffery, was held to two points, while the Cardinal had four players in double figures, led by Joslyn Tinkle's 20 points. Toni Kokenis and Chiney Ogwumike had 19 points each and Nnemekadi Ogwumike had 15.

The scoring drought that killed Colorado at the end of Thursday's loss to California extended well into Saturday's game. The Buffs were scoreless in the final 7 minutes, 10 seconds on Thursday.

On Saturday, it wasn't until freshman Jasmine Sborov drained a pair of free throws with 13:01 to play in the first half that CU got its first points of the game -- and its first in 14:09 of game time.

When Sborov hit a bucket at the 11:45 mark, it ended a stretch of 15:25 without a field goal. The Buffs started Saturday's game 0-for-12 from the floor.

"It's very frustrating, but we just have to learn how to stay together when times get like that and pick each other up and just know that if the shots aren't falling, we just have to get stops and eventually they'll fall for us," Wilson said.

Eventually, the Buffs did get on the board. In fact, Stanford wasn't exactly sizzling at the start, either. Despite their 7-minute dry spell, the Buffs got within 13-9 on a Lexy Kresl 3-pointer with 9:16 to go in the first half.

The points didn't come quick enough or consistently for CU to hang with Stanford, though. Brittany Wilson and Jen Reese led CU with 10 points each.

As for Jeffery, she finished 1-for-10 from the floor. She didn't score until a layup 26 seconds before intermission. That ended a scoreless streak of more than 27 minutes for the Buffs' junior. She had scored at least 11 points in 19 straight games, and finished with her lowest output since a two-point game at Iowa State in February.

"She is a terrific player," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "We had to work hard to defend her. We had about four or

five different players guarding her throughout the game."

It wasn't just Jeffery that struggled, though. As a team, the Buffs hit just 32.8 percent of their shots, and just 20.7 percent in the first half.

"It's hard when everybody is having an off night all at the same time," CU head coach Linda Lappe said.

After Kresl's 3-pointer, Stanford's offense kicked into gear and the Cardinal went on a 17-2 run to pull away.

Tinkle, who averages 7.0 points per game, scored 12 points by halftime while Nnemkadi and Chiney Ogwumike combined for 14 points and 10 rebounds before the break.

"We did a good job with Nnemkadi and Chiney," Sborov said. "I just don't feel we were as ready for Joslyn."

Add in the 19 points by Kokenis, and CU had a tough time stopping Stanford's four-headed monster.

"You've got to be on point at every position on the floor," Ashley Wilson said. "You just have to be ready."

The loss dropped the Buffs to 0-2 on the two-game home stand against the Bay Area schools. After a 12-0 start to the season, the Buffs are 1-3 in their last four games.

"I hope not," Lappe said when asked if her team's confidence has taken a hit. "It's tough to tell. It's too early. I didn't think our confidence was wavering in general before this game. I felt good bouncing back (after the loss to Cal). We had done it already.

"The good thing about these last couple of losses is there's a lot to learn from. Our players just have to open to learning and open to being coached. If we can do that, we'll be fine."

Stanford 80, Colorado 54

STANFORD

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

C Ogwumike 30 8-11 3-4 3-9 2 0 19

N Ogwumike 26 3-7 9-10 0-5 0 3 15

Tinkle 32 7-9 4-4 2-3 0 2 20

Kokenis 28 8-12 2-2 1-5 2 1 19

Orrange 17 1-4 0-0 0-1 3 2 2

Greenfield 16 0-1 0-0 1-5 0 2 0

La Rocque 26 1-8 0-2 0-3 5 2 3

James 7 0-1 0-0 0-1 0 1 0

Payne 5 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 3 0

Samuelson 7 0-1 0-0 0-1 0 0 0

Boothe 6 1-3 0-0 0-1 0 1 2

Totals 200 29-58 18-22 8-37 12 17 80

Percentages: FG .500, FT .818.

3-Point Goals: 4-11, .364 (Tinkle 2-3, Kokenis 1-3, La Rocque 1-5).

Team Rebounds: 3.

Blocked Shots: 3 (Boothe 2, Samuelson).

Turnovers: 12 (Boothe 2, Kokenis 2, C. Ogwumike 2, La Rocque 2, Greenfield, Orrange, N. Ogwumike, Tinkle).

Steals: 5 (Orrange 2, Kokenis, La Rocque, N. Ogwumike).

Technical Fouls: None.

COLORADO

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

M Malcolm-Peck 24 2-5 0-0 3-3 0 1 5

Seabrook 18 3-6 2-2 0-1 0 3 8

Hargis 28 0-2 1-6 3-7 0 4 1

Kresl 20 1-10 0-0 0-1 2 2 3

Jeffery 30 1-10 0-0 1-5 3 0 2

Lee 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

B Wilson 21 3-8 3-5 1-2 2 2 10

A Wilson 18 4-5 1-2 1-4 0 0 9

Sborov 17 2-5 2-3 2-5 0 1 6

B Malcolm-Peck 2 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Reese 21 3-7 4-6 2-4 1 2 10

Totals 200 19-58 13-24 14-37 8 15 54

Percentages: FG .328, FT .542.

3-Point Goals: 3-19, .158 (M. Malcolm-Peck 1-2, B. Wilson 1-4, Kresl 1-7, Sborov 0-1, Reese 0-1, Jeffery 0-2, Seabrook 0-2).

Team Rebounds: 5.

Blocked Shots: 1 (Hargis).

Turnovers: 15 (B. Wilson 3, Hargis 3, Jeffery 2, A. Wilson 2, Seabrook 2, Reese, Kresl, M. Malcolm-Peck).

Steals: 8 (Kresl 2, Sborov 2, A. Wilson, Jeffery, M. Malcolm-Peck, B. Wilson).

Technical Fouls: None.

Stanford 32 48--80

Colorado 15 39--54

A -- 4,672.

Officials -- Anita Ortega, Alejandro Moreno, Karen Lasuik.

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RINGO: Linda Lappe must find Chucky Jeffery's sidekick

By **Kyle Ringo** Buffzone.com
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/14/2012 11:29:36 PM MST

One Chucky Jeffery isn't going to get the job done for the Colorado women's basketball team.

Coach Linda Lappe's roster is stocked with plenty of players who were offensive stars of their high school teams. At least one or two more of them need to start playing like it at the college level if this team is going to go anywhere and accomplish anything special this season.

Being unselfish for the good of the team is all well and good until it starts hurting the team, and right now it's hurting this team. Maybe it's not unselfishness. Maybe it's just a lack of aggression, or worse, deferring to Jeffery.

The point is, there is no Robin to Jeffery's Batman on most nights for the Buffs.

Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer recognized this pretty easily in her preparations for CU on Saturday at the Coors Events Center and she directed her players to smother Jeffery whenever possible.

Jeffery finished with two points against the No. 4 team in the nation, hardly the showcase game she hoped to have knowing many of her peers around the nation would be checking the box score afterward.

And the fact that CU has no consistent second scoring option was never more evident because no one stepped into the gap to fill the void. Only Brittany Wilson reached double figures in scoring. She finished with 10 points as the Buffs were walloped 80-54.

"We worked hard against her and we had a lot of people guarding her," VanDerveer said. "We had like four or five different people guarding her, and they're not a one-dimensional team, but I think we had the inside strength more so."

Lappe said Jeffery played a tentative first half and missed a few open looks. She looked a little more like herself in the second half, but by then the game was essentially decided. Lappe also noted that Jeffery is at her best when the game is played at a fast pace and the teams are getting up and down the floor quickly. The Buffs' past two games haven't worked out that way as much as they were earlier in the season.

But the pace of the game isn't nearly as big a problem right now for Lappe as finding someone to complement Jeffery and pick up the slack when she has a bad shooting game or just an off night.

Last season, the Buffs were fortunate to have Brittany Spears and Jeffery in the lineup together. Stopping both players at the same time usually proved to be too much to ask. But Spears is gone and no one has come close to replacing her.

Jeffery entered Saturday's game averaging 17 points, eight rebounds and four assists for the Buffs. Freshman Lexy Kresl is the only other player scoring in double figures on a regular basis and she is only averaging 11 points a game.

"We know it's hard on Chucky, she has a lot of weight on her," guard Ashley Wilson said. "When she's not having a good night, there has to be somebody to take the weight off her shoulders and pick her up."

"We just need people to step up and we'll get it. We'll definitely get it. Players have confidence. We're confident in ourselves; we just have to know that when we step up shots are going to fall and we'll get it."

Lappe said Jeffery is entitled to a down game and she hopes her star player gets her swagger back.

Jeffery's track record would indicate that won't be a problem. She has one of these off nights every two years or so.

The issue is getting some of that swagger to rub off on her teammates.

"I say she is entitled to one because everyone has one, but we're not going to be very successful when she does cause we just don't have enough other players that are capable of doing some of the things that she can do," Lappe said.

Lappe said she has had a lot of discussions with her assistant coaches about "the million dollar question," which is who is the player who should fill the role or is most capable.

Lappe said senior forward Julie Seabrook has to take more shots because she is capable of making them and because she is a leader. She also said she needs more scoring from at least two of the following four players: Meagan Malcolm-Peck, Brittany Wilson, Jen Reese and Kresl.

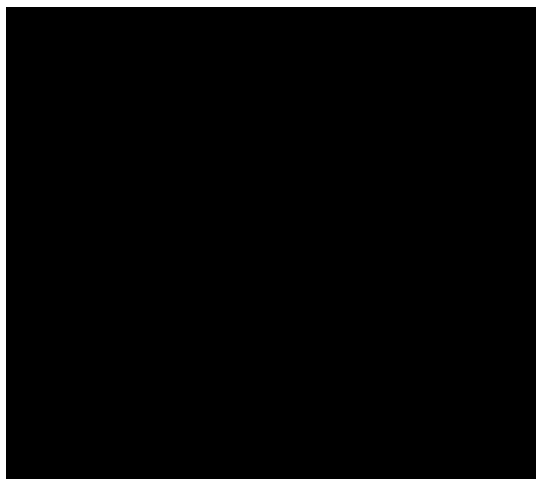
The Buffs probably weren't going to beat Stanford even if Jeffery had the game of her life on Saturday. But as long as the offense is entirely dependent on her, the Buffs have no shot of pulling off a major upset. Every game is going to be a dogfight.

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Women's basketball: CU Buffs' Sborov shows signs of potential

By **Brian Howell** Buffzone.com
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/14/2012 08:35:21 PM MST



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Jasmine Sborov has spent much more time watching than she ever hoped.

On Saturday, though, the Colorado freshman was given an opportunity to prove herself, and she did just that in the Buffs' 80-54 loss to Stanford.

"I thought Jasmine did some really nice things," CU head coach Linda Lappe said. "She's showing up in practice and she's gaining confidence and giving our staff confidence in practice because of what she's doing and how she's playing, and she's competing."

Sborov, from Round Rock, Tex., had played a total of just nine minutes, without taking a single shot, in CU's first four Pac-12 games.

On Saturday, she scored a career-high six points -- including CU's first four -- matched her career high with five rebounds and registered two steals in 17 solid minutes.

"It's a good feeling to finally get back to my roots and really contribute," she said. "It's hard sitting on the bench and not contributing as much as you'd like to. (Saturday) was a good feeling."

Prior to Saturday, Sborov had scored a total of 10 points all season. She has been doing well in practice, but admitted, "I just needed to produce a little bit more in games."

Under Lappe, playing time is often dictated by practice performances. Sborov's efforts in practice, combined with Saturday's performance ought to lead more time on the court.

"I think it depends on the team (CU is playing), but if she keeps practicing like she's been practicing, then yeah, you find a way to get that kid some playing time," Lappe said.

Rebounding

In the past two games, CU has faced two of the top five rebounding teams in the country.

Cal held a slight 39-35 edge on Thursday, but CU matched Stanford at 37 boards apiece.

"I was pleased," Lappe said. "We took the rebounding challenge this week and got a lot better at that. This game and the last game, we had a few let-downs in the second half rebounding the basketball, but for the most part I have been pleased with our rebounding."

Notable

CU has lost two straight at home for the first time since the final two games of the 2009-10 season. ... CU shot 32.8 percent, its lowest output of the season. ... Stanford finished at 50 percent, the first team to shoot better than 45 percent against the Buffs this season. ... The Buffs are now 61-141 all-time against ranked opponents, including 37-45 at home.

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Monday, January 16, 2012

Juggernaut Stanford rolls over Colorado

By Matt Sparkman

Colorado women ended a disappointing 0-2 homestand with a 54-80 loss to the fourth-ranked Stanford Cardinal.

I thought (Stanford) came out and played hard and were the aggressors," said CU head coach Linda Lappe. "We had a good half."

CU started the game slow offensively, not scoring until nearly seven minutes had already passed in the first half, and then put the score at 9-2.

However, CU warmed up from the field, and continued their strong play defensively, cutting the Stanford lead to pointer.

From there, it was all downhill for the Buffs, as they couldn't keep up with the Cardinal. Stanford's most talented players scored 15 and 19 points, respectively, and forward Joslyn Tinkle registered 20 to lead the way.

"Nnemkadi and Chiney are very good players," said CU guard Ashley Wilson. "They are both very athletic. (Stanford) You have to be ready at every position on the floor."

After starting 12-0, CU has dropped three out of their last four to put them at 13-3 and 2-3 in the Pac-12. However, Lappe believes Lappe is on the right track.

"Linda was trained by an absolute legend in our game," said Vanderveer, referring to former CU coach Ceal Barr. "She's definitely doing some things Ceal taught her."

The Buffs see the floor next on Thursday against Arizona State.